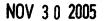
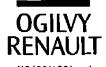
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Re

Serial No.

09/489,929

Inventor(s):

Richard LODGE

Title:

PACKET DATA TRAFFIC CONTROL FOR CELLULAR

WIRELESS NETWORK

Notice of Appeal and Request for Pre-Appeal Review attached

2002

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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Name (Print/Type) Kent Daniels 44,206

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Docket Number (Optional) PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW 9-13528*-*77US I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the Application Number Filed United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mall In an envelope addressed to "Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for 09/489.929 January 24, 2000 Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] November 30, 2005 First Named Inventor Richard A. LODGE Signature Art Unit Examiner Typed or printed Kent Daniels 2685 TRAN, Pablo N. Applicant requests review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed with this request. This request is being filed with a notice of appeal. Х The review is requested for the reason(s) stated on the attached sheet(s). Note: No more than five (5) pages may be provided. I am the applicant/inventor. assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is analosed. Kent Daniels (Form PTO/SB/96) Typed or printed name attorney or agent of record. (613) 780-8673 Registration number Telephone number attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34. 30 2005 Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34 Date NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

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Request for Pre-Appeal Review Serial No. 09/489,929

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Attorney Docket No.

Richard LODGE, et al

9-13528-77US

Serial No: (

09/489,929

Group Art Unit: 2685

Filed:

January 24, 2000

Examiner:

Pablo N. Tran

For:

PACKET DATA TRAFFIC CONTROL FOR CELLULAR WIRELESS

NETWORKS

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
U.S.A.

Sir:

Request for Pre-Appeal Review

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.191, the Applicant has submitted a Notice of Appeal from the Examiner to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, along with a Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review. Specifically, the Applicant takes appeal from the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-9, 13-18, 21-29, 33-38, 41-47 and 49-52 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The Notice of Appeal has been filed in response to the Examiner's Final Action mailed May 31, 2005. In support of the above-noted Pre Appeal Brief Request for Review, the Applicant now submits the following arguments:

Applicant believes that the present request for Pre-Appeal Brief Review is appropriate, because of clear factual deficiencies in the rejections of record. More specifically, the Examiner's claim rejections are based on assertions regarding the teaching of the cited reference, which assertions are explicitly contradicted by the passages relied upon by the Examiner. It should be noted that this is not a merely a matter of interpreting the meaning of a prior art teaching, or the scope of a claim. Rather, throughout the prosecution history of this

case, Applicant has repeatedly be placed in a position of requesting an Appeal from Examiner's rejections which are based on passages of the prior art that explicitly state the exact opposite of what the Examiner has alleged. Applicant has also been repeatedly forced to respond to claim rejections based on the Examiner finding features of the prior art which simply do not exist in the cited reference. Applicant has also been repeatedly forced to respond to claim rejections based on combinations of references that have no plausible rational. The present appeal represents a continuation of this pattern.

The Examiner's rejection

At paragraph 2 of the detailed action, the Examiner asserts, with reference to claims 1, 21 and 41 that:

"Akita et al. disclosed a method of controlling data traffic in a wireless communications network comprising a plurality of wireless terminals and base stations wherein the method having the steps of examining performance each wireless link to identify a poorly performing wireless link and temporarily interrupting the bi-directional data transmission over the poorly performing wireless link (col. 6/ln. 4-63).

Akita et al do not teach that the traffic control is implemented in the base station. However, Ludwig teaches such method of controlling the data traffic during temporarily interruption can be facilitated at the mobile station, the base station, or at the network (col. 14/ln.58-67). Since both references disclosed such method of monitoring and temporarily interruption of the wireless communication link, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide such method of data processing between devices of Ludwig to the communication system of Akita et al. in order to allow efficient handling of data transmission to effectively utilize resources for a zone, cell of a predetermined area within the network". (Underlining added)

As is detailed below, Applicant believes that the above-underlined passages in the Examiner's arguments are exactly and explicitly contradicted by the teachings of the cited references.

United States Patent No. 5,383,221 (Akita et al.)

United States Patent No. 5,383,221 (Akita et al.) teaches a mobile station unit and channel switching method in which the mobile station monitors the quality of its link with the base station. If the link quality deteriorates, the mobile station attempts to execute a "hand-off" procedure to establish a new link with another base station. This operation is timed to coincide with reception of the start of the broadcast channel (BCCH) frame of the next each superframe. [col.6, lines 4-12]. As is clearly stated at col. 2, lines 3-5, and shown in FIG. 7, the broadcast channel (BCCH) frame comprises one of the control channels of the network, and is transmitted within the first time slot of each superframe. With this arrangement, communication with the old base station "is interrupted only during the BCCH frame period" [col. 6, lines 35-39]. Thus, Akita et al. explicitly teach that temporary interruption of communications through the link is limited to reception of a control channel.

Quite apart from the impossibility of rationally equating a broadcast control channel with "bi-directional data communication with the base station through a respective ... data communications link", it is patently obvious that <u>reception</u> and <u>transmission</u> are exact opposites. Akita explicitly teaches temporarily interrupting <u>reception</u> of the BCCH frame, which is the <u>exact opposite</u> of the Examiner's characterization of that reference.

It should be noted that, according to Akita, if the new BCCH is detected [FIG. 3 at "e", and FIG. 4 at "T5"], the mobile station completes the set-up of a new link with the new base station [FIG. 3 at steps "g"-"l"]. This results in a further interruption of communications, during "a short interval that clapses from when the BCCH is detected until the connection to the new BS is completed, i.e. an interval when the connection processing is performed." [col. 6, lines 50-54]. However, such interruption of communications is directly related to the hand-off procedure, in which the link with the old base station is discarded, and a new wireless link set up with the new base station, in order to continue communications. In this case, communications through the "old" wireless link is not merely interrupted, it is permanently ended in favour of the new link to the new base station.

United States Patent No. 6,765,889 (Ludwig)

United States Patent No. 6,765,889 (Ludwig) teaches a communication method and system, which avoids "the loss of data packets due to temporary interruptions of the

communication network by determining, at the sending data processing device, based on information received from the communication network, which packets that are lost or will be lost during transmission due to a temporary interruption of the communication network. ... To allow retrieval of lost data packets, data packets scheduled for transmission can be temporarily stored in temporary storage devices. " [Abstract]

The fact that temporary interruptions occur in wireless communications networks, is very well known, and predates Ludwig. Thus Ludwig teaches a data communications method that is tolerant of temporary communications interruptions, by enabling the resending of data packets that are lost or will be lost during the interruption. However, Ludwig does not teach or suggest deliberately creating interruptions, and more particularly does not teach, suggest, or remotely contemplate either of the steps of "examining performance of each wireless link to identify a poorly performing wireless link", and "temporarily interrupting bi-directional data transmission over the poorly performing wireless link", as required by the present invention.

The Examiner's combination of references

In light of the foregoing, it will be apparent that the Examiner's assertion that "both references disclosed such method of monitoring and temporarily interruption of the wireless communication link," is utterly unfounded. Akita monitors exactly one link, and interrupts reception of a control channel to look for the BCCH frame of a new base station; while Ludwig responds to an interrupt message (IM) to resend data packets lost during a communications interruption. Neither reference teaches "interrupting bi-direction data transmission through the identified poorly performing link" as required by the present invention.

Furthermore, the Examiner's statement: "<u>it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide such method of data processing between devices of Ludwig to the communication system of Akita et al..."</u> is so garbled as to be virtually unintelligible. However, the Examiner appears to be asserting that, based on Ludwig, it would be obvious to reverse the roles of the mobile unit and base station of Akita et al, so that the hand-off procedure of Akita et al is implemented in the base station. However, such an arrangement has no plausible rational. In particular, it cannot achieve the "<u>efficient handling of data transmission to effectively utilize resources for a zone, cell of a predetermined area within the network</u> " as alleged by the Examiner. Instead, it yields a base station which monitors a link

(with the mobile unit) and, upon finding the link to be poorly performing, interrupts control channel signalling from the mobile unit in order to attempt to set up a new wireless link with another mobile unit. This operation clearly fails to accomplish either the purposes of the present invention or the Examiner's proposed "efficient handling of data transmission...". In the alternative, one might speculate that the base station, upon finding a poorly performing link, might attempt to force a hand-off of the involved mobile unit to another base station. However, quite apart from the obvious inefficiencies involved in such operation, such an arrangement is neither taught nor suggested by Akita, and is entirely unrelated to the presently claimed invention.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that the Examiner's claim rejections are entirely lacking proper factual basis, wherefore Pre-Appeal panel review of this case is believed to be appropriate, and early action in that respect is courteously solicited.

If any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this response, such extension is hereby respectfully requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not enclosed herewith, including any fees required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-5113.

Respectfully submitted, Richard LODGE, et al

By: Kent Daniels, P.Eng.

Reg. No. 44206

Attorney for the Applicants

Date: November 30, 2005

Ogilvy Renault LLP Suite 1600 1981 McGill College Avenue Montreal, Quebec Canada, H3A 2Y3 (613) 780-8673